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LETTER DATED 3 FEBRUARY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

The European Union is paying close attention to the situation in Afghanistan. It has recently made a declaration on this subject, enclosed herewith; I should be grateful if you would circulate it as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Jean-Bernard MERIMEE

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Annex

AFGHANISTAN

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

(Paris, 30 January 1995)

The European Union is paying close attention to the situation in Afghanistan. It expresses its support for the peace process initiated by the United Nations and reaffirms its attachment to the preservation of Afghanistan's territorial integrity and national independence.

It calls upon all Afghans to support a lasting cease-fire and to join, in a spirit of compromise, in the efforts made by Mr. Mestiri, head of the United Nations special mission to Afghanistan, to implement the national reconciliation plan in accordance with the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 20 December 1994.

The European Union deems it important also to put a stop to foreign intervention. The contribution of the countries in the region is essential if assistance to the factions is to be halted. The European Union invites these countries to support Mr. Mestiri's plan. These countries play a vital role in facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance and aid to development. The European Union, aware of the situation of the population, especially in the capital, calls upon the parties and the neighbouring countries to allow rapid and unimpeded delivery of emergency food and medical assistance. Moreover, the persistence of unrest in the country is conducive to the escalation of violence and increased drug production. It constitutes a serious threat to regional and international peace and security. When the hostilities have ended, the international community, including the countries in the region, will have a key role to play in rebuilding Afghanistan.